

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Page 12, paragraph beginning at line 24, amend to read as follows:

In many cases, the IP multicast packet routing device will support more than one interface towards possibly more than one subscriber access node as shown in Figure 6. The arrangement in Figure 6 includes IP multicast router, 601, and ATM based subscriber access nodes, 602. In this case, a separate shared point to multipoint connection 604 must be provisioned on each of the subscriber access node interfaces and the multicasting router will need to duplicate separate instances of the multicast information packets and forward these into each of the point to multipoint connections. Also provided are separate IP multicast routing controls 603 for each station.

Page 13, paragraph beginning at line 20, amend to read as follows:

In yet another embodiment of the invention, the IP multicast packet routing device could be implemented within a non-IP based access node as shown in Figure 8. A specific example of such an embodiment could be a subscriber access node, 801, which uses ATM as the internal communication mechanism but includes a plug-in IP multicast packet routing device, 802, which performs a similar function to that of an external IP multicast packet routing device. A subscriber access node connection manager, ~~807~~, controls the ATM based multicast in cooperation with the subscriber IP multicast control link.